inputting the first amount of data corresponding to the block
size information in response to the first write request.

172. The method of claim 171 further including storing the
first amount of data corresponding to the block size information in
the memory array.

173. The method of claim 171 wherein the block size
information and the first write request are included in a request
packet.

174. The method of claim 171 wherein the first block size
information is a binary representation of the first amount of data
to be input in response to the first write request.

175. The method of claim 171 wherein the first block size
information is provided by a controller.--

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment seeks to place this application in
condition for allowance. This application is a continuation of
Application No. 09/252,997, which is a continuation of Application
No. 09/196,199. Application Serial Nos. 09/252,997 and 09/196,199
are pending.

Applicants request priority to Application Serial No. 07/510,898, filed April 18, 1990, now abandoned. Applicants request such priority through Application No. 09/252,997 (still pending), which is a continuation of Application No. 09/196,199, filed on November 20, 1998 (still pending), which is a continuation of Application No. 08/798,520, filed on February 10, 1997 (now U.S. Patent 5,841,580); which is a division of Application No. 08/448,657, filed May 24, 1995 (now U.S. Patent 5,638,334); which is a division of Application No. 08/222,646, filed on March 31, 1994 (now U.S. Patent 5,513,327); which is a continuation of Application No. 07/954,945, filed on September 30, 1992 (now U.S. Patent 5,319,755); which is a continuation of Application No. 07/510,898, filed on April 18, 1990 (now abandoned).

Accordingly, Applicants claim the benefit of the filing date of Application Serial No. 07/510,898 -- i.e., April 18, 1990. The specification has been amended to identify the continuation or related U.S. application data identified above. No new matter has been added.

In this continuation application, Applicants present new claims which set forth novel and unobvious features of Applicants' invention. Applicants submit new claims 151-175 to more fully protect the instant invention. No new matter has been added.

The newly submitted claims are believed to be fully supported by the specification -- see, for example, Figures 2 and 10-13; page 14, line 3 to page 15, line 2; page 15, lines 18 to page 16, line 7; page 20, line 20 to page 21, line 20; page 23, line 6 to page 24, line 2; page 27, line 23 to page 28, line 20; page 46, line 19

..to page 48, line 17; page 53, line 23 to page 59, line 2; page 71, line 23 to page 72, line 21, page 73, lines 20 to page 74, line 31; and page 115, lines 10-22.

Applicants have also amended the specification to correct obvious spelling, typographical and grammatical errors. No new matter has been added.
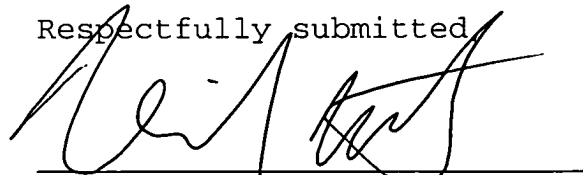
In addition, a new Abstract of the Disclosure is attached hereto. No new matter has been added.

Finally, accompanying this Preliminary Amendment is a Request to Approve Drawing Changes. In that Request, Applicants seek to amend Figure 10 to more fully reflect the discussion in the specification, in particular, page 55, lines 12-16 and page 58, lines 13-23. The proposed changes are indicated in red. No new matter has been added. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner approve the proposed changes to Figure 10. A new Figure 10 which incorporates the changes is also attached to the Request.

CONCLUSION

Applicants request entry of the foregoing amendment prior to examination of this application. Applicants submit that all of the claims present patentable subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 27, 2000

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